FAMILY LIFE

S.F.T.S
LIBRARY

Vol. XVII, No. 4 APRIL, 1957 Edited by Paul Popenoe

The American Sex Revolution

Among the many changes of the last few decades, a peculiar revolution has been taking place in the lives of millions of American men and women, says sociologist Pitirim A. Sorokin in a new book. This sex revolution is as important as the most dramatic political or economic upheaval. It is changing the lives of men and women more radically than any other revolution of our time. It is marked by growing inability of husbands and wives to get along with each other, by a growing disintegration of family life and an increase of promiscuity and illicit relations, and by an extraordinary obsession with sex on the part of most of the population.

Marriage and family life provide the normal education of young people for living. As this "marriage-family-school" increasingly fails to graduate socially well-adjusted, mature individuals, and as there seems to be no other agency which can better discharge the task, the nation and mankind at large are bound to be made up more and more of individuals and groups less and less capable of getting along with others. This forebodes an even greater difficulty in mutual adaptation of the members of all other groups: labor unions, business concerns, educational and religious organizations, national and international associations. This revolution urgently demands study—and action.

The chapters in which Dr. Sorokin describes contemporary art, music, literature, motion pictures, television, radio, the popular press, advertising, science, ethics and religion, political life, law,—in short, our total culture, — are not pleasant reading. The worst thing about them is that they are true! What are the consequences of this absorption in Sex? Happiness, mental health, moral integrity, and creativity are alike impaired. "The poison of the transgressor radiates throughout the family, then society as a whole. Social institutions are demoralized, cultural values degraded, and sex anarchy brought ever closer." In 50 pages he documents these conclusions, from other civilizations in the past as well as our own in the present. They lead him to two generalizations.

1. The regime that confines sexual life within socially sanctioned marriage, and that morally disapproves and legally prohibits premarital and extramarital relations, provides an environment more favorable for creative growth of the society than does the regime of free or disorderly sex relationships which neither morally

FAMILY LIFE
Monthly service bulletin of the
AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF
FAMILY RELATIONS
5287 Sunset Boulevard
Los Angeles 27, California
Price $1 a year, 10c a copy.

disapproves nor legally prohibits premarital and extramarital liaisons.

2. The regime that permits chronically excessive, illicit, and disorderly sex activities contributes to the decline of cultural creativity.

In all history the story has been the same: the highest peak of creative productivity of any culture was associated with the closest approach to monogamy; and decline of either one was associated with decline of the other. Dr. Sorokin recognizes that there were many other factors involved, but he believes that patterns of sexual life were fundamental. Correlating the extensive researches of J. D. Unwin with his own, he finds no exception to the statement that "civilized societies which have most strictly limited sexual freedom have developed the highest culture," and that history supports Gandhi's declaration: "The future is for the nations that are chaste."

His survey of American culture is far from flattering. "Most peoples and leaders of decaying societies were unaware of their cancerous sickness," he reminds the reader. Page after page lays before the reader the evidence which the reader already knows but has refused to face.

Then, what are we going to do about it? "What must we do to be saved?" The main changes necessary fall into three inter-dependent groups:

1. Changes in the mind, heart, and behavior of our men and women.

2. Changes in various compartments of our culture.

3. Modifications in our basic institutions.

All three types are equally necessary for a sucessful reconstruction of our sexual life and of the larger sociocultural order conditioned by it.

The detailed discussion of what to do is perhaps inevitably inadequate, after the brilliant and overwhelming description of the present situation in which "like a big city dump, our confused minds are filled with all sorts of junk, as well as with the sublimest ideals of man. And the same inconsistency is displayed between our avowed moral standards and our actual conduct." Readers can hardly avoid the conclusion that much depends upon the individual action of intelligent men and women, who have been too ready to close their eyes, to look the other way, or to glorify and vote for notorious debauchees. But schools which have steadily refused to educate young people for marriage and parenthood, churches which have refused to do more than mouth a few pious platitudes, universities whose faculties have fought marriage education in every possible way, also need attention!! The author likewise holds psychologists and psychiatrists largely responsible to the extent that they have been deluded by Freud (for whom he has no praise!) and have accepted no individual moral standards on their own account.

Briefly, young people from infancy on must be given a wholly different idea of what "Love" means, than that which they now get from the radio crooners and movies. In the courtship period young people must proceed slowly, know the full personality of the prospective partner, and totally avoid sexual intercourse with either the proposed partner or with anybody else. They should enter marriage with the determination to marry for

life—though he accepts divorce as desirable when, after plenty of time and intelligent help in harmonizing their lives, the couple find that "their married life is a nightmare of misery, mutual hate, and disloyalty"; but he would limit the number of divorces and remarriages for one person, in order to avoid the present disgraceful exhibitions in which men or women run up a record of 10 or 15 such episodes.

Our culture must then be "disinfected," Dr. Sorokin asserts. "To be successful, this disinfection requires the free cooperative participation of every responsible member of our society, and especially of its creative leaders. And this participation must be consistent, devoid of the prevalent hypocrisy and self-contradiction of many a guardian of our culture heritage whose right hand starts a crusade against a few demoralizing comics or books, while their left hand buys, enjoys, and even finances most of the sexual dregs against which they are crusading."

"If one is a parent, his irreproachable sexual behavior influences the children and others much more effectively than most of the spasmodic crusades mentioned. The same goes for a youth or an unmarried adult. Their clean sex conduct is the best disinfectant of the blight. If the ordinary citizen refuses to buy and read the contaminating publications, to attend erotic shows, plays, and movies, to patronize joints, to vote for libertine politicians, to listen to sexy music, he can greatly contribute to the task of desexualizing the whole cultural and social life. If one is a business man, he can undercut many roots of sexual poison ivy by refusing to participate in business enterprises which commercially exploit sexual dregs, by not sponsoring unsuitable programs of radio, television, movies, or press entertainment, by contributing nothing to all the causes, persons, and institutions which breed and propagate the sexual 'borers.' . . . If a considerable and ever-increasing part of our women and men follow this path in their thoughts, words, and deeds, the infection discussed will rapidly diminish until its ugly scales, rashes, and sores disappear from the cultural and social world in which we live."

Dr. Sorokin was the first professor (1930) and chairman of the department of sociology at Harvard, and is now director of the Harvard Research Center in Creative Altruism, from which he has published a number of books of profound significance. The present volume, which the publishers wisely offer in an inexpensive as well as a standard edition, is written in popular style. Specialists will call attention to minor errors and differ on various points which have little relation to the purpose of the volume. If it does not stir hundreds of thousands of people to more effective action, there is really something the matter with the population of the United States!

(THE AMERICAN SEX REVOLUTION, by Pitirim A. Sorokin. Pp. 192 (no index,), price $3.50 in cloth, $2 in paper covers, from Porter Sargent, publisher, 11 Beacon st., Boston 8, Mass., 1957.)

The Birth of a Baby

NATURAL CHILDBIRTH, A Documentary Record of the Birth of A Baby Supervised by Dr. Grantly Dick Read Westminster HI-FI Long Play XWN 18390, price $3.98 from Westminster Recording Sales Corporation, 275 Seventh ave., New York 1, N.Y., 1957.

Here is a priceless document emphasizing, as thousands of words could not, the

value of training for childbirth and adequate support during labor. Furthermore it provides eloquent proof of the spiritual values inherent in the arrival of a baby under ideal circumstances. These circumstances include the proper preparation of mother and father through study, diet, and exercise, the presence of the father, the help and guidance of a sympathetic physician with the Read point of view, and a nurse assistant who is also familiar with this kind of training. Let him (or her) who would use this record as an educational tool be warned that it packs a terrific emotional wallop. After a simple introduction by the attending physician, Dr. Read, you hear the sounds produced by a woman in labor, by the man and woman helping her, and by the infant after it is born. The poise, and at times the anxiety and dependence of the patient, the calm confidence of her attendants, and her utter delight when her efforts are rewarded, the charming touches of humor — all these come through vividly. There are many valuable coaching hints from doctor and nurse. It is possible to visualize the changes in position, the use of various aids, the actions of the mother throughout. Excellent sound equipment has registered the controlled breathing, the grunts, the pop of the amniotic sac, the dripping of the fluid, even the emergence of the baby's head. The British accent is probably no hindrance since is is not extreme. The chief hazard connected with using the recording as a teaching aid in this country is the contrast between the experience of this mother and what most of us here can expect. There are few physicians who can or will do it "The Read Way."—Mary Jane Hungerford, Ph.D.

●

Notes From the AIFR

WORKSHOP in family life education will be offered by Paul Popenoe and Roy E. Dickerson at Stout State College, Menomonie, Wisconsin, during the week of June 17. A similar workshop last summer brought 500 applicants for registration, while the college could accommodate only 250. This year's workshop will give the other 250 their chance! Dr. Popenoe and Mr. Dickerson will also put on a similar workshop at Bridgewater College, Bridgewater, Virginia, during the week of July 29. Details about each of these can be had by addressing the director of the Summer Session at the college in question.

PROSPECTUS and complete program of the Tenth Annual Summer Workshop in the Techniques of Counseling, to be offered at the AIFR August 5 through 17, is now available.

●

Around the World

JAPANESE Diet has passed a bill abolishing brothels, but giving them two years in which to "wind up their affairs" and close.

SOVIET UNION has extended maternity leave for pregnant women from 77 days to 112 days, half to be taken before the birth, half afterward. In case the woman bears twins or has an abnormal delivery, the 56 days after delivery are extended to 70.

WOMEN OF GUJERAT (India) celebrated *Women's Glory Day* on March 10. One of the features was circulation of a pledge to be signed by men, pledging themselves to a code of behavior toward women which included prohibition of "harassment and mental torture," in order to "ensure human treatment to women and save them from committing suicide." Similar movements have been reported from other parts of India, where women are demanding better conditions of life.

Inexpensive Pamphlets

THE WHY AND HOW OF DISCIPLINE, by Aline B. Auerbach. Pp. 42, price 40c from Child Study Assn. of America, 132 E. 74th st., New York 21, N.Y., 1957.— Excellent discussion of the principles that should underlie punishment, as well as an understanding of what discipline means and how it can be lived.

FOR YOU—a double future in home economics, price 25c from American Home Economics Assn., 1600 20th st., N.W., Washington 9, D.C. — Prepared primarily for high school students.

WHEN YOUR CHILD STARTS TO SCHOOL, free on application to American Social Hygiene Assn., 1790 Broadway, New York 19, N.Y. — Summarizes the sex knowledge a child should have before he reaches the age of six.

NEW HOPE, pp. 32, price 10c from Natl. Assn. for Mental Health, 10 Columbus Circle, New York 19, N.Y.— Illustrated booklet showing what happens to a patient, from admission to discharge, in a good mental hospital.

A FEELING IS TO FIX, sample copy free to those professionally concerned, from Family Study Unit, Dept. of Psychiatry, Tulane University Medical School, New Orleans 12, La.—Illustrated booklet which parents can read to a child who is about to attend a child guidance clinic.

●

Research Notes

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION reports that shock treatment in its hospitals has been reduced about 90% since "tranquilizing drugs" came into use.

MARRIAGES of first cousins in the U.S. during the past generation have been much fewer than generally supposed, not much more than one in every 200 marriages, according to recent surveys. These are reviewed in a paper on such marriages among Mormons, by C. M. Woolf et al in the Dec., 1956, issue of the *American Journal of Human Genetics*. Rural populations have a higher rate of inbreeding than do urban populations.

MATERNAL MORTALITY in the U.S.A., now four per every 10,000 live births, is only about one-fourth as great as it was a decade ago. Use of anti-biotics and other new drugs has been an important factor in the decrease.

NUMBER OF FAMILIES in the U.S., now about 44,000,000, is expected by the Census Bureau to increase to more than 54,000,000 by 1975.

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY increased in 1955 for the seventh consecutive year, says the U.S. Children's Bureau; since 1948 there has been a 70% increase while the child population increased 16%. In court cases boys outnumber girls five to one.

●

GI Marriages Abroad

American service men continue to bring brides home from Great Britain and Europe in large numbers, according to official statistics from 1956. There were more than 11,000 such marriages last year among the 300,000 men in uniform who are stationed in that area. English girls are most frequent in the record, then Germans, French, and Italians in order. Military authorities insist on "reasonable" length of courtship, which the Air Force interprets to mean that the man should have been abroad for at least eight months; and naturally require that the girl be eligible for entry to the United States from the point of view of health, moral character, and political record. Candidates for matrimony apply to their commanding officer, who refers them to the unit chaplain for report. About 10% of all applications are rejected.

Educational Notes

U.S. GOVERNMENT still shows no evidence that it recognizes how to attack juvenile delinquency on a preventive level. The Department of Health, Education, and Welfare has sent to Congress a bill which would authorize an appropriation of $3,000,000 for the first year and up to $9,000,000 in each of the four succeeding years, "for strengthening state and local programs to control juvenile delinquency. It would also authorize grants for demonstrations and studies, and for training of personnel in this field." Not a word is said about trying to improve marriage and strengthen family life—major factors in juvenile delinquency, that are consistently disregarded except for casual mention, in the expensive conferences which the federal government has promoted year after year.

FATHER'S DAY is Sunday, June 16, with theme, "Integrity begins in the home."

"THE MAN IN THE FAMILY" was the topic of the annual conference of the Child Study Assn. of America on March 25.

BRIGHT CHILDREN have been getting more attention in recent years, after several decades in which "the exceptional child" was understood to mean merely the dull or mentally deficient. Study directed by D. A. Worcester at the University of Nebraska recommends that children of high intelligence be admitted to the first grade even before they reach the age of six, and that there be less hesitation about letting such children skip grades thereafter.

NATL. ASSN. FOR BRILLIANT CHILDREN has begun publication of a monthly newsletter, free sample copy of which will be sent on application to the association, 409 Clinton Springs ave., Cincinnati 17, Ohio. President Ann F. Isaacs invites membership of all interested persons. The organization will hold its annual meeting in New York City in connection with the AAAS meeting next Christmas week.

HAPPY MOTHERHOOD (La Maternite Heureuse) is the name of a new French organization working for the repeal of laws which prohibit dissemination of contraceptive information. Its president is a woman physician, Dr. Marie- Andree Weill-Halle.

NEW ZEALAND'S efforts to establish marriage counseling have progressed slowly, says David R. Mace after a visit to that country. One reason is that several persons who had allied themselves with the pioneer marriage guidance group later became involved in widely-publicized marital difficulties of their own. National Council of Churches is pressing the N.Z. government to introduce family life education in the schools. (*Marriage Guidance,* London, Jan., 1957.)

BRITAIN'S Trades Union Congress, one of the powerful bodies in the kingdom, has adopted a resolution declaring that "education of young people for the responsibilities of family life should be integral part of the school curriculum and should also be included in all educational and recreational facilities provided for youth."

SEXUAL EDUCATION in the schools was approved by 57% of French citizens, in a public opinion poll; 48% favored marriage counseling services.

GERMANY'S Central Catholic Institute of Information on Matrimonial and Family Questions (Breitestr. 110, Cologne) devoted most of its fifth workshop on marriage counseling to psychological problems.

NEW BOOKS IN BRIEF REVIEW

ONE MARRIAGE: TWO FAITHS, by James H. S. Bossard and Eleanor Stoker Boll. Pp. 180, price $3.50 from the Ronald Press, 15 E. 26th st., New York 10, N.Y., 1957.

It's a gloomy picture of inter-faith marriage that the University of Pennsylvania sociologists paint in this new book. More than half of all marriages are in this category, so far as some of the large groups (e.g., Roman Catholics and Lutherans) are concerned, and they are definitely on the increase, the percentage of Lutherans, for example, who married outside their church being 46 in 1936-40, 58 in 1946-50. The authors review the official position or attitude (always unfavorable) of the various religious groups, then discuss the ways in which religious differences affect the marriage. Relatives and friends are often a serious problem. Arrival of children often creates the greatest difficulties. There are peculiarities of behavior, distinctive customs, dietary restrictions, and varying attitudes toward authority. The authors deal in case histories rather than statistics, for the most part; but their cases are unsuccessful cases. A chapter on "Solutions that have worked" does not answer all doubts, for it shows that two persons may think they are meeting all religious differences successfully, only to go on the rocks a quarter of a century later as deeply buried feelings of guilt or resentment make themselves felt. The authors insist that each marriage is unique; that religious difficulties are by no means the only ones, or even the most important ones, that lead to broken homes; and they urge very strongly that young people take the long-range view in choosing mates. Once the choice is made, the path to happiness "must ever be through the areas of understanding, tolerance, compromise, and mutual respect." The book, like others by these well-known authorities, is simply written, temperate, and persuasive.

•

YOU CAN HAVE A BETTER MARRIAGE, by Barney Katz. Pp. 177 (no index), price $3 from The American Press, 489 Fifth ave., New York 17, N.Y., 1957.

Dr. Katz, Los Angeles psychologist and popular writer and lecturer on parent education, covers the every-day problems of married life simply and sensible. His brief description of the biology of reproduction is not too accurate, and his discussion of the women's sexual response is largely obsolete in the light of more recent investigations by Arnold H. Kegel and others. His suggestions on where to get help are naturally colored by his own psychological background; he favors the "clinical psychologist, and psychoanalyst," although these in general are trained to deal with the individual, not with the marriage, and the standard training they get for their own professions does not prepare them for marriage counseling. He is on solid ground in remarking that social workers who are qualified for this purpose are "very much in the minority." Surveys by Florence Hollis showed that even among the best case workers in the best agencies, only about half were doing a good job in marriage counseling. He is on equally solid ground in urging that the credentials of a marriage counselor be examined thoroughly. The number of properly trained persons in this field is still relatively small. Particularly unfor-

tunate and ill-founded is Dr. Katz' suggestion that an attempt of only one mate to get help for the marriage "is usually fruitless." On the contrary, a marriage counselor who knows his business often does an excellent job in straightening out a marriage, by seeing only one of the partners; and innumerable marriages have been abandoned needlessly because the partner who wanted to take the initiative in getting help was assured that "it's no use unless your spouse will also come." On the whole, however, Dr. Katz' little book should provide real help to any husband or wife who wants to have as good a marriage as possible.

•

EXPLORATIONS IN AWARENESS, by J. Samuel Bois. Pp. 212, price $3.59 from Harper & Bros., 49 E. 33d st., New York 16, N.Y., 1957.

Popular explanation of general semantics by a management consultant who has been president of the Canadian Psychological Assn. Dr. Bois believes an understanding of the principles developed by Alfred Korzybski will help the student to improve his skills in observing, thinking, and communicating.

•

SOCIETY AND EDUCATION, by Robert J. Havighurst and Bernice L. Neugarten. Pp. 465, price $5.75 from Allyn & Bacon, 70 Fifth ave., New York 11, N.Y., 1957.

Two professors in the University of Chicago's Committee on human development have prepared this textbook of educational sociology. Involving many controversial problems, it makes stimulating and profitable reading for anyone not deterred by the typical textbook style. Teachers now come from a laboring class background rather than from a white-collar family, in much greater proportion than was the case a generation or two ago. They gain some upward social mobility, and some pupils likewise get this advantage, but "for most children (the school system) enforces the status quo." Family structure and function are discussed in one chapter.

•

THE FIRST INTERVIEW WITH A PSYCHIATRIST, by Charles Berg. Pp. 239, price $4.25 from the Macmillan Co., 60 Fifth ave., New York 11, N.Y., 1956.

This imported book, written by a well-known London psychoanalyst, emphasizes the fact that the unconscious elements in an interview are more important, oftentimes, than the surface information presented. He insists that the problems in the analyst are just as important as the problems in the patient. He describes in detail his procedure in dealing with patients presenting many different types of maladjustment. Like so many English scientific books, this one is well written.

•

THE STRESS OF LIFE, by Hans Selye. Pp. 324, price $5.95 from McGraw-Hill Book Co., 330 W. 42d st., New York 36, N.Y., 1956.

It has long been known that people who attained great age were likely not only to come from a long-lived ancestry, but to lead fairly quiet and uneventful lives. During recent years much more attention has been paid to stress and strain in daily existence, and the contributions of the Canadian endocrinologist (born in Vienna), Hans Selye, have been fundamental and far-reaching. In this new book he gives a complete account of his concept. It will not be easy reading for those who lack some biological background, although it is not intended as a technical discussion for the specialist. A few more decades will probably be needed to determine whether Dr. Selye deserves the praise that has been given him as "the Einstein of medicine," and as the contrib

utor of researches that rank with those of Pasteur, Ehrlich, and Freud, but he has certainly had great influence on contemporary biology. Final chapters of the book outline some of the medical, psychosomatic, and philosophical implications. The book demands careful study, but no one can pretend to be up to date in understanding of the human body and mind, without some familiarity with it.

•

THE BIOLOGICAL BASIS OF HUMAN FREEDOM, by Theodosius Dobzhansky. Pp. 135 (no index), price $2.95 from Columbia University Press, 2960 Broadway, New York 27, N.Y., 1956.

One of the world's leading geneticists presents an authoritative and understandable picture of biological evolution, in the light of current scientific thought. The idea that nature is always "red in tooth and claw" is just as unfounded, he insists, as the idea that "all is sweetness and light in unspoiled nature.' Actually, not much is said about human freedom, which the title promises to discuss, but the reader will be able to get rid of many popular misconceptions of evolution. Ethics has no genetic basis, he declares; it is a product of culture and man can therefore have any kind of ethics that he wants. Dr. Dobzhansky is professor of zoology at Columbia University.

•

HARMONY IN MARRIAGE, by Leland Foster Wood. Pp. 122, paper covers, boxed, price $1.25 from Round Table Press, 79 Ninth ave., New York 11, N.Y., 1955.

Dr. Wood, former secretary of the commission on marriage and the home of the Federal Council of Churches in America, prepared this little book many years ago with the assistance of the distinguished gynecologist, Robert L. Dickinson. It has now been revised and issued in attractive but inexpensive form, accompanied by a small wedding certificate, particularly for ministers who wish to make a gift to the bridal couple. It covers many of the important problems of married life, physical as well as spiritual.

•

HEREDITY AND YOUR LIFE, by A. M. Winchester. Pp. 333, price $5 from Vantage Press, 120 W. 31st st., New York 1, N.Y., 1957.

Human heredity is once more beginning to get some attention, after a score of years in which it was in eclipse, due partly to revulsion against the doctrines or policies of Hitler's dictatorship in Germany. Dr. Winchester, geneticist and head of the department of biology at Stetson University (De Land, Fla.), offers an unusually good popular account of it. Misprints and minor errors are not of a kind to cause any real confusion to readers, and the discussion is right up to date. Writing a book on heredity without passing largely into the discussion of the genetics of lower animals and of plants, where the details have been worked out much more fully, is not an easy job. Dr. Winchester has done it creditably. Many of the illustrations are excellent, some are a little more gruesome than is necessary. Understanding of human heredity is so important, yet so rare among even well-educated Americans, that this book deserves to find a very large number of readers and students.

●

Illinois Experiment

Effect of a 60-day cooling-off period, before a divorce suit is heard, has been satisfactory according to Circuit Judge Julius H. Miner, who authored the Illinois experiment and discusses it in the December issue of the American Bar Assn. *Journal.*

First attempt resulted in a law in 1953,

which was held unconstitutional by the state supreme court. A new bill was then adopted, which the court found satisfactory and which is now in operation. It provides that actions for divorce and separate maintenance shall be commenced by filing a praecipe for summons, but postpones the filing of the complaint and the entry of a decree, except in emergency cases, for 60 days from the day the summons is served or last notice of publication given. This gives the court an opportunity, if it desires, to bring the parties together and try to effect a reconciliation. Divorce judges are in no way obliged to conduct pre-divorce-suit conferences. They can merely "sit it out" if they prefer to do so. But Judge Miner believes many of them, like himself, will take advantage of this opportunity for "social service." In his own experience of 68 conciliation conferences in his chambers, "there was effected a total of 59 reconciliations involving 113 children."

He cites the experience of Judge Louis H. Burke of the Los Angeles Superior Court, who reported in the May-June, 1955, issue of the *Journal of the State Bar* of California that he effected 500 reconciliations out of slightly over 1,000 cases in 1954, involving more than 1,000 children. No one knows how many of these reconciliations are permanent and satisfactory, but Judge Miner declares that "a conservative appraisal of past experience shows that at least one-third of all divorces could have been prevented had the parties been constrained to avoid undue haste and had there been available a friendly court 'counselor' to hear and discuss the grievances before they were publicized." But, he declares firmly, "if a new plan will conciliate only five discordant couples and save five families out of a hundred, it will need no further justification."

While the new law has not led to a decrease in the number of divorce petitions filed in Cook County (Chicago), it has led to a very definite decrease in the number of decress finally granted, he reports. "Between July 16, 1954 and Aug. 31, 1955, there were 15,860 suits for divorce and separate maintenance filed in Cook County, and 11,290 decrees granted. During the identical period since the enactment of the new law, July 16, 1955 to Aug. 31, 1956, filing increased to 16,832 but the decrees diminished to 10,112."

"The divorce problem," the jurist insists, "involves more than mere marital contests. It goes much deeper. It challenges our institutions ,our moral foundations, and our professional self-respect . . . No nation can survive unless the family is in a flourishing and healthy condition."

IN ARGENTINA one birth in every four is illegitimate, says a publication of the Roman Catholic church. A leading newspaper of Guatemala City stated recently that 80% of all births in Guatemala are illegitimate.

GERMAN TOYSHOP has posted a sign reading: "We have toys to make any child happy. However, we can serve you better if you tell us not merely the age of the child but also the age of the father."

ALGERIA has adopted legislation to provide old age pensions, and has put additional heavy taxes on alcoholic beverages, to raise the necessary money. Taxes on motor vehicles are increased for the same purpose.

MENTAL HEALTH WEEK will be observed April 28-May 4.

PRACTICAL HELP FOR COUNSELORS

The American Institute of Family Relations offers invaluable material, to be found nowhere else, for the many people called upon to help others in dealing with personal and family problems. In addition to the Correspondence Course in Counseling (see next page), the Institute has prepared a number of unique pamphlets, the most recent being:

Pub No. 524. MARRIAGE COUNSELING. PRICE.....25c
Marriage counseling is largely a matter of re-educating one or both partners. Everyone has a right to expect from marriage emotional and economic security, companionship, sexual partnership, and children. Four rules for successful marriage counseling are given.

Pub. No. 526. THE PRACTICE OF MARRIAGE COUNSELING: A paper presented to the third International Conference on Planned Parenthood, Nov. 24 to Dec. 1, 1952, by Paul Popenoe, Sc.D. 35c

An illuminating and concise discussion of twelve pitfalls which beset many counselors, and how to avoid them. Aids for formulating a provisional plan of treatment of the client.

Among the other popular pamphlets for counselors are:

Pub. No. 502 MARITAL COUNSELING WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO FRIGIDITY 35c

Pub. No. 506. AGGRESSIVENESS AND ITS TREATMENT. (Mimeographed) 10c

Pub. No. 517. SEXUAL INADEQUACY OF THE MALE.....1.00
The most practical, concise and explicit discussion available of the non-medical treatment of a very common condition which affects several million husbands in this country and Canada, and therefore affects an equal number of wives.

MIMEOGRAPHED SHEETS OF SUGGESTIONS for dealing with specific traits: increasing cordiality, decreasing submissiveness, decreasing rigidity, improving an over-critical temperament, improving a subjective temperament, increasing sympathy, increasing self-mastery, improving a nervous temperament, suggestions to clients who are low in "activity," suggestions to those who are over-active, suggestions for reducing over-aggressiveness, suggestions for dealing with depression. Complete set $1.00

★ ★ ★

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF FAMILY RELATIONS

5287 Sunset Boulevard **Los Angeles 27, Calif.**

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE
OF FAMILY RELATIONS
5287 Sunset Boulevard
Los Angeles 27, Calif.

(Reurn Postage Guaranteed)

Sec. 34.66 P. L. & R.
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
Los Angeles, Calif.
Permit No. 12538

San Francisco Theological Seminary
San Anselmo
California

The Institute publishes more than a hundred books and pamphlets dealing with every phase of marriage and family life. Here are two popular ones:

1. PREPARING FOR MARRIAGE —

The Institute's widely known "Premarital Conference" pamphlet, dealing with sexual adjustment in marriage. It has proved to be just as valuable to many persons already married, as to those looking forward to marriage. Sold at $15 per hundred or $2.50 per dozen; single copy.....25c

23. BUILDING SEX INTO YOUR LIFE —

A Pamphlet intended for young men going into the army or industry; equally valuable for those in senior high school or college; but no less valuable to their sisters, parents, and educators. A simple statement of sexual ethics, constructive and soundly scientific. Sold at $15 per hundred or $2.50 per dozen; single copy 25c

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF FAMILY RELATIONS

The American Institute of Family Relations is the first organized attempt in the United States to bring all the resources of modern science to bear on the promotion of successful marriage. It was incorporated in 1930 as a non-profit undertaking, and all its services are available to the public at a minimum cost.

Through lectures, conferences, and discussion groups, the Institute carries on an active and continuous educational program. A circulating library provides the public with recent and important books. A correspondence course in the principles, techniques, and materials of counseling, makes the experience of the Institute available to those at a distance, who are called upon to lead, advise, or instruct others in dealing with their personal and family problems.

Write for Full List of Publications to

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF FAMILY RELATIONS

5287 SUNSET BOULEVARD -:- LOS ANGELES 27, CALIFORNIA